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LESSING J. ROSENWALD DIES

Lessing J. Rosenwald, preeminent among 20th-century book and print collectors, died at his home in Jenkintown Pa., on Sunday, June 24. He was 88.

Paying tribute to the Library's benefactor, Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin said, "Lessing Rosenwald was a noble man who delighted in the delights of others. Born to a high station, he chose to use his talents for the nation and the world of books.

"He neither wanted nor expected the recognition he deserved. But he lives on in his benefactions and in his exhilarating example. Our nation needed Lessing Rosenwald. The Library of Congress and the library world will never forget him."

Lessing J. Rosenwald at Alverthorpe

Mr. Rosenwald, who on the occasion of his 82nd birthday received a personal letter from the President of the United States thanking him for his generosity to the nation, shared his passion for collecting rare books and works of art with others, kindling and perpetuating this interest in them by his own enthusiasm. His warmth and openness of spirit were matched by an equally generous attitude toward his collection. In a sequence in the BBC television documentary on the Library of Congress aired last April, Mr. Rosenwald was filmed at Alverthorpe, his home in

Jenkintown, lecturing to a group of Philadelphia art students, whom he encouraged to touch and examine the objects so precious to him.

Mr. Rosenwald's collections–numbering more than 2,500 books and 25,000 prints and drawings–were amassed over a half century. In 1943 he made his original gift to the Library of Congress of approximately 500 choice books and manuscripts. His collection of fine prints, which he also presented to the nation, is among the treasures of the National Gallery of Art. He continued to make gifts to the Library of Congress, most recently a gift of 191 rare books presented in 1978.

Born in Chicago in 1891, Mr. Rosenwald was educated in the schools of that city and at Cornell University. Associated with Sears, Roebuck and Co. (which his father helped to found) from 1911 until 1939, he was chairman of its Board of Directors from 1932 until his retirement seven years later. A collector who had to share this interest with his business, his retirement enabled him to devote much of his time to assemble a collection of rare books ranging from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts to the finest examples of contemporary printing. In an article published several years ago, Washington writer Meryle Secrest observed of the collector that "it is a paradox that Rosenwald, heir to a great American fortune made from the sale of millions of identical objects, should have become fascinated by the beautiful and unique. . . ."

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Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

The central focus of the Rosenwald Collection of books was always the history of illustration. Within this grand design, Mr. Rosenwald developed such specialties as books printed by the earliest presses, science, calligraphy, botany, and chess.

Mr. Rosenwald's relationship to the Library of Congress was not limited to the role of donor. He was a frequent visitor to the Library, served as an honorary consultant in rare books in the 1960s, and cooperated in the Library's publication both of works of his own and of facsimile editions of items from his collection. He was the author of the foreword to *Printed on Vellum*, issued in 1977 to accompany an exhibit of the same title that was drawn primarily from the Rosenwald Collection. He wrote numerous articles

During a visit to the Library in 1977 to view the "Printed on Vellum" exhibit, Mr. Rosenwald was photographed talking to Lois Fern, who edited the 1975 Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection *catalog.*

about items in his collection, and in 1976 published *Recollections of a Collector*, recounting his experiences and recalling his associations during his exceptional career.

The Rosenwald Collection includes a remarkable gathering of books, manuscripts, engravings, drawings, and other productions of the English poet William Blake, and a virtually complete set of the *Voyages* published by Theodor de Bry and his sons, which set forth to Europeans the panorama of explorations of the Americas, East Indies, and Africa in the 16th and early 17th centuries. Outstanding individual volumes include the Giant Bible of Mainz, a finely executed manuscript produced in that German city at the same time that Gutenberg was preparing the first

At a 1973 dinner marking the collector's 82nd birthday and an exhibit of treasures from his collection, Roy P. Basler (on the left), then chief of the Library's Manuscript Division, was pictured greeting the Rosenwalds.

printed Bible, and the only known copy of the *Doctrina Christiana,* the first book printed in the Philippines (Manila, 1593). One of Mr. Rosenwald's few bulk purchases, acquired in 1956, was the library assembled by the Dukes of Arenberg, an extraordinary assemblage 160 titles of central importance in the study of the development of the Flemish book, in particular the illustrated book, from 1470 to the end of the 16th century.

In 1978, the Library published a major catalog of the Rosenwald Collection (see the LC *Information Bulletin* of November 3, 1978, pp. 669, 672-3).

Mr. Rosenwald was honored in 1973 at a dinner marking his 82nd birthday and the opening of an exhibit of treasures from his collection. At the time, Librarian of Congress L. Quincy Mumford thanked Mr. Rosenwald for gifts which "have enriched our lives as they will those of generations to come."

Mr. Rosenwald's survivors include his wife, the former Edith Goodkind, five children, a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a sister and a brother. A memorial service will be held at a date to be announced.

LIBRARY CONSIDERING PINYIN ROMANIZATION

In 1977, the Library of Congress considered the possibility of changing its romanization of cataloging information on Chinese-language materials to the Pinyin system, but decided at that time to continue to romanize according to the Wade-Giles system. Subsequent developments have led the Library to reconsider that decision. First, many sources of current information about China for American library users now romanize Chinese by the Pinyin system. Such sources include the newspaper wire services, the national daily newspapers, the television networks, and the weekly news magazines. Second, documents issued by the People's Republic of China (PRC) use Pinyin, and the National Library of Peking has been using Pinyin romanization in the main entry headings of its recently printed catalog cards. Third, the *Journal of Asian Studies,* in wide use among Chinese specialists, is intending to change to Pinyin within three years. Fourth, Pinyin is now used more frequently in teaching and in the presentation of Chinese sounds for the non-specialist. Fifth, the British Library, with which the Library of Congress is closely associated, uses Pinyin and has urged that the Library of Congress adopt it. Finally, the United States Board on Geographic Names, the Library's chief source for forms of foreign geographic names, and other executive agencies of the United States Government use Pinyin for PRC names. Publications from the PRC have constituted a small percentage of the Library's Chinese-language acquisitions in recent years but the proportion is expanding rapidly and may soon comprise the majority of receipts in that language.

An additional factor requires the Library of Congress to make a decision on the romanization for Chinese as soon as possible: the forthcoming implementation of the second edition of the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* (AACR 2). At that time the Library intends to begin new bibliographical files that will contain both new bibliographic records and old bibliographic records already in the MARC data base. This plan requires that there be available both to the Library of Congress and to the users of its bibliographic services a large number of valid AACR 2 headings and the necessary links between these headings and their current forms by January 2, 1981. To achieve this, the Library is now providing, in its automated name authority system, the AACR 2 forms for headings used in current cataloging. Because many of the conventions in AACR 2 are different from those

of earlier cataloging codes (for example, the construction of geographic name headings), each current heading must be analyzed in the light of AACR 2 and the Library's decision on AACR 2 options. The Library is making an enormous investment of its resources in this activity now to insure that other libraries will be fully aware of what the Library of Congress intends to do after 1980, to give other libraries access to future forms of headings and the links between headings long in advance of their actual use in new bibliographic records, and to prevent a severe disruption in the preparation of cataloging data for newly received materials in 1981. Unfortunately, doubts about the wisdom of continuing to use, after 1980, the Wade-Giles system of romanization for Chinese have led to the exclusion of Chinese headings from the AACR 2 preparation process until a decision is made on what romanization system will be used. This exclusion means that the necessary work in providing the AACR 2 forms later will have an adverse impact on the workflow of Chinese materials. It also delays the creation of the necessary links between the existing forms of Chinese headings and their AACR 2 counterparts.

The Library feels that it must make a final decision by January 1980 on whether to shift to Pinyin so that necessary preparation can be carried out before 1981. This shift could be made relatively inexpensively as part of the AACR 2 conversion process. A change made after that date would be markedly more expensive since by that time the automated authority files would contain large numbers of Chinese headings in Wade-Giles which would have to be changed.

For these reasons, the Library of Congress has made a tentative decision to adopt Pinyin for all Chinese-language publications at the time AACR 2 is implemented. Because this decision will have a wide-ranging effect, however, the Library is interested in soliciting the views of others who handle Chinese materials.

NEWS FROM NLS/BPH

The Library's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has won the 34th annual John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award for "excellent public service television and radio spot announcements which effectively promote the library's talking-book program." The public service announcements cited in the library consortia competition were the centerpiece of a special public education program carried out in 1978 with the cooperation of eight NLS/BPH network libraries in Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, South Carolina, and Washington.

Presentation of the award was made at the American Library Association Annual Conference in Dallas, Tex., on June 25. The annual John Cotton Dana award competition is sponsored by ALA's Library Administration and Management Association with the support of the H. W. Wilson Company.

Library services administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped are described in *Handicapped: New Services, Products & Laws.* This 24-page publication is the basis for a special Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) "Consumer Survival Kit" television program produced for broadcast on more than 200 PBS stations nationwide on or about June 23.

SURPLUS DUPLICATES OFFERED

The following Library of Congress duplicate materials are available to Federal agency libraries on a transfer basis and to other libraries and institutions that wish to make an exchange offer for them. Requests from Federal libraries will receive priority consideration. Those interested should contact Nathan R. Einhorn, Chief, Exchange and Gift Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

CONGRESSIONAL SERIAL SET

Scattered issues for the period 1925-1970 and fuller sets for 1970 and following are available on exchange at a fixed rate of $7.70 per volume. All items should be requested by serial number.

THE WRITINGS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

Edited by John C. Fitzpatrick (Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1931-1940. 37 vols. plus a two-volume *General Index* [Vols. 38-39, 1944]), this work is available on exchange for the best offer.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Bound volumes of this title through Vol. 88 (1942) are available on an exchange basis for the best offer. Bound volumes after Vol. 88 (1942) are available on a donation basis to schools and libraries in the United States, and on an exchange basis to non-U.S. institutions. Interested institutions are invited to select any of these volumes through their authorized representa-

Mr. and Mrs. Lew R. Wasserman, donors to the Performing Arts Library, were honored at a reception at the new facility on Tuesday, May 8. The occasion marked the unveiling of a plaque which paid tribute to the Wassermans, who provided funds for the library's furnishings. Mr. Wasserman was also a Kennedy Center Board member from 1968 to 1978.

Pictured above (left to right) are Roger L. Stevens, chairman of the Kennedy Center Board, Edith and Lew R. Wasserman, and Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin. Also present for the ceremony were Assistant Librarian of Congress for Research Services John C. Broderick, columnist Art Buchwald, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Strauss, former Senator J. William Fulbright, George Stevens of the American Film Institute, Mrs. Daniel J. Boorstin, and various present and former Kennedy Center trustees.

The Performing Arts Library is a joint project of the Library of Congress and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. It is located on the Roof Terrace of the Center. (A full description of the facility appeared in the LC Information Bulletin *of March 30, pp. 105-107, following the March 8 opening of the library.)*

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tives. Volumes selected will be shipped by motor freight collect unless franked mailing labels are provided.

If interested institutions do not have authorized representatives to make selections for them from any of the materials listed above, they may request the Exchange and Gift Division to select the specified volumes they need if they are willing to pay the costs of selecting and packing the materials.

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS REPORTED

William J. Welsh, The Deputy Librarian of Congress, as chair of the Steering Committee on Universal Bibliographic Control, participated in the meeting of the Executive Board of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) held May 3-4 in Edinburgh. In order to improve the cordination of professional activities, the board decided effective September 1 to establish in one entity, headed by a Programme Management Committee, the programs for Universal Availability of Publications (UAP), Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC), and International MARC. UAP and UBC are located in London, and an International MARC technical center is located in Frankfurt. The Management Committee will consist of the IFLA president, the chair of the IFLA Professional Board, the chair, or his or her representative, of the Conference of National Librarians, and two persons appointed by the Executive Board.

The theme for the IFLA General Conference in

Manila scheduled for August 25 through September 1, 1980, is "Exchange of Experience in Library Development–International Understanding through Communication: A Challenge for International Cooperation through IFLA." Other discussions and decisions reached during the board meeting concerned procedures for handling resolutions at general conferences, appointments to committees and offices, IFLA input into the UNESCO program and budget for 1981-1983, participation at the UNISIST II meeting and UNESCO-sponsored meetings. The board reviewed procedures and documents for the IFLA Council Meeting at Copenhagen on August 27-September 1 of this year. Elections for vacancies on the Executive Board will take place at Copenhagen. The nominees for president are Else Granheim (Oslo, Norway), E. Häkli (Helsinki, Finland), P. Havard-Williams (Loughborough, U.K.), D. R. Kalia (New Delhi, India), G. Sylvestre (Ottawa, Canada). Nominees for board member are Marie-Louise Boussat (Paris, France), E.R.S. Fifoot (Edinburgh, U.K.), D. R. Kalia (New Delhi, India), Helena Kolárová (Bratislava, CSSR), F. Kroller (Graz, Austria), Jean E. Lowrie (Kalamazoo, Mich., U.S.A.), J. S. Musisi (Nairobi, Kenya), S. C. Nwoye (Nsukka, Nigeria), F. Adetowun Ogunsheye (Ibadan, Nigeria), A. Rodriguez Gallardo (Mexico), G. Rückl (Berlin, DDR), J. S. Soosai (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), D. E. K. Wijasuriya (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia).

Henriette D. Avram, director, Network Development Office, participated in a meeting of the International MARC Network Steering Committee which took place in London on May 24-25. The committee was established by the Conference of Directors of National Librarians in 1975 and was given the charge to conduct the studies required to determine the organization and management coordination structure for an international networkk, the functions to be performed to implement and operate the network, and an indication of how and by what organizations these functions would be implemented.

At the meeting in London the steering committee discussed a study conducted for the committee by Joseph Rosenthal, associate university librarian, University of California, Berkeley, on the international copyright problems of exchanging and using machine-readable bibliographic records. The committee agreed to draft a model bilateral agreement for national bibliographic agencies for exchange purposes. Each member of the committee agreed to consider the draft in more detail and to notify the chair of the committee of any modifications that appeared necessary. If agreement is reached, it is hoped that the model agreement will be presented to the Conference of Directors of National Libraries during the forthcoming IFLA meeting at Copenhagen in August. If the directors approve of the model agreement, it will be published for wider distribution.

A draft proposal written by the committee's chair, Richard Coward (British Library), concerning organizational issues of the network as well as the functions to be performed in order to implement and operate the network was discussed. The committee drafted a work statement for a study, taking into consideration the establishment under IFLA (mentioned in Mr. Welsh's report above) of the Programme Management Committee, to include the programs for UAP, UBC, and International MARC. The work statement will be used as a basis for contractual support and will also be submitted to the directors for their approval at Copenhagen.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS OF THE LIBRARY DURING MAY

From Abroad

Algeria–Zehira Belaid, attorney, National Scientific Research Institute, Algiers.

Argentina–Roberto Cortes Conde, DiTella Institute, Buenos Aires.

Bangladesh–Alamgir Mahammad Serajuddin, chairman and professor, Department of History, Chittagong University.

Bolivia–Peter Lewy, manager, Los Amigos del Libro Publishing House.

Brazil–Miguel Jorge, editor-in-chief, *O Estado Sao Paulo*, and Charlotte Jorge, manager of Editora Signal Ltda, Sao Paulo; Selma Monteiro, professor of American literature, Federal Fluminense University, Rio de Janeiro.

Canada–Halina Lukasiewicz, Canadian International Development Agency, Ottawa.

Colombia–Pablo Reyes, Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá.

Cuba–Manuel Moreno Fraginals, visiting professor of history, Columbia University, New York, New York; Audillo Urfé, Cuban Ministry of Culture.

Dominican Republic–Mireya Gomez, Santiago de los Caballeros.

Ecuador–Julio Enrique Toral Vega, Cuenca.

England–Marigold Best, University of Sussex; Lance Garrett, director of recreation, Battersea Town Hall,

London; Frank Harris, lecturer in educational technology, University of York; C. Roger Ragaven, Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge; Gerhard Wette, cataloging librarian, London Polytechnic.

Federal Republic of Germany–Christain Baumer, Munich; Peter Klunkert, editor, RIAS (Radio In the American Sector), Berlin; a group of 70 Thomas Nast enthusiasts headed by the lord mayor of Landau; Hedwig Von Schleintz, cataloging librarian, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Bonn.

France–Theo Junker, head, Interparliamentary Delegations and Contacts with Third Countries Division, European Parliament; Edouard de Salins, vice president of G-CAM; Bernard Perrin, vice president of Cam and Gerard Le Grand, vice president of IRCANTEC.

Ghana–James Aggrey-Orleans, clerk-designate of Parliament, Accra.

Greece–Panayotis Christopoulos, Library of Parliament.

Honduras–Victor Cáceres Lara, historian, Tegucigalpa.

Hungary–Joseph Szabo and Mrs. Beck, Kultura (Bookdealer), Budapest.

India–Trilok Deep, reporter, *Dinaman* (Hindi newsweekly), and commentator, All India Radio, New Delhi.

Indonesia–Marzuki Darusaman, member of Parliament, Jakarta.

Ireland–Stuart O'Sheanoir, manuscript librarian, Trinity College, Dublin.

Israel–Phil Herman, Israeli Aircraft Corp.

Italy–Antonio Ghirelli, presidential press spokesman for the Italian Government, Rome.

Jamaica–Thomas Dwyer, principal, Excelsior Education Center.

Japan–Tomoko Harada, Research & Development Section, International Medical Information Center; Toku Morita, chief inspector, Organization & Management Division, Kanagawa Prefectural Government.

Malaysia–Bin Sanusi, member of parliament and deputy minister, Land and Regional Development.

Nigeria–D. O. Awosika, librarian, Administrative Staff College of Nigeria, accompanied by Ebenezer Soyinka; Titi Mabugunje, deputy chief registrar, High Court of Ogun State.

Norway–Bjorn Bjornsen, writer and journalist, Oslo.

Pakistan–Agha Babur, executive director, Pakistan Arts Council, Rawalpindi.

Paraguay–Jose Fernandez Estigarribia, professor of law, Catholic University, Asuncion.

People's Republic of China–Jilung Bi, deputy secretary-general of the United Nations.

Philippines–Cesar A. Majul, dean, Islamic Center, University of the Philippines.

Poland–Ryszard Gorzecki, Institute of History, Polish Academy of Sciences; Anna Teresa Kornatek, director, Pulaski Museum, Warta; Edm. Morawiec, Theological Academy, Warsaw; Wladislaw Serczyk, Jagiellonian University, Krákow.

Puerto Rico–Angel Calderon Cruz, president, Caribbean Studies Association.

Sierra Leone–Abdul Koroma, minister of education, Freeton.

Spain–Juan Benet, novelist.

Switzerland–Ian Picek, chief, Cataloging Department, Allgemeine Bibliothek, Basel.

Thailand–Dejo Savanananda, director general, Department of Fine Arts, government of Thailand, Bangkok.

Tunisia–Nadia Attia, Mustapha Mami, Afif Maherzi, and Mohamed Hussein Mchizi, Institute de Formation d'Animateurs Culturels, Tunis.

U.S.S.R.–Lilia Filippova, senior researcher, Institute of the U.S. and Canada, Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., Moscow.

Venezuela–Mario Venegas Ruiz, Universidad Nacional, Caracas.

Yugoslavia–Budimir Lazovic, counsel, Federal Assembly of Yugoslavia; Igor Mandic, literary critic and author, Zagreb.

From the United States

Jan S. Adams, executive secretary, American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Columbus, Ohio.

Nancy Ekholm Burkert, book illustrator, Madison, Wis.

Chris Burns, vice president for planning, *The Washington Post.*

Bob Fisher, reference librarian, Northern Illinois University.

Ruth E. Leerhoff, assistant university librarian for technical services, San Diego State University.

Michelle LeMonde, librarian, Anderson Corp., Bayport, Minn.

Sheila Meyer, librarian, Conwed Corp., St. Paul, Minn.

Jim Montgomery, cataloging librarian, Boston University.

Scott O'Dell, author, Westchester County, N.Y., and his wife, Elizabeth Hall.

Pat Rey, librarian, Federal Reserve Bank, San Francisco.

Paul Zurkowski, president, Information Industry Association.

Groups from the Women's Board of the Chicago Art Institute, the Friends of the Cincinnati Public Library, the Rare Books and Special Collections Program of Columbia University's School of Library Service, and from the libraries of Virginia Commonwealth University and Washington College, Chestertown, Md.

A Few of the Visitors Expected in July

Russell Bowden, deputy secretary, The Library Association, London.

Wolfgang Dietz, parliamentary librarian for the Federal Republic of Germany, Bonn.

Naomi Goldberg, librarian, Israel.

I. Steinberg, president, Israel Library Association, and librarian, Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa.

Lee Taek-Don, member National Assembly of Korea.

Harold Weir, parliamentary librarian for Australia.

THREE MEETINGS REPORTED

The **CEAL Subcommittee on Technical Processing**, chaired by Thomas H. Lee of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, held a special meeting on March 31, during the Annual Conference of the Committee on East Asian Libraries of the Association of Asian Studies. Automation, AACR 2, and the Pinyin romanization of Chinese were the three major areas of discussion. Various opinions on automation were expressed. Especially interesting were the comments made by Jim Mathias, executive secretary of the Chinese-English Translation Assistance (CETA), an ad hoc interagency/academic organization that has been developing computer-based Chinese text, dictionary, and bibliographic files. He explained the computer-stored Chinese language files and the capability of the computer to reproduce Chinese characters. The chair reported that the responses of East Asian libraries to the subcommittee's survey on automation indicated a need for a dual system–that is, the Library of Congress should input fully romanized Chinese, Japanese, and Korean records to the data base until such time as it is possible to input records in East Asian scripts, but also continue to produce records in the East Asian scripts through the manual system.

Beatrice Ohta, head, Chinese/Korean Languages Section, Descriptive Cataloging Division, Library of Congress, summarized the Library's plan to train its staff in the implementation of AACR 2. The chair indicated approval of the fact that AACR 2 has included some of the recommendations put forward by the CEAL subcommittee.

The possibility of adandoning the Wade-Giles romanization scheme in favor of Pinyin romanization was also discussed. It was indicated that the Library of Congress is reviewing the advantages and disadvantages of making this change in 1981 when it will freeze existing catalogs and adopt new cataloging rules. The subcommittee concluded its consideration of this crucial issue by deciding to conduct a survey of affected institutions to ascertain the impact on them, consider the results, and then prepare recommendations for transmittal to the Library of Congress. [*Beatrice Chang Ohta*]

The 8th National Meeting of the **Latin American Studies Association** (LASA) was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., on April 5-7, attended by some 1,000 Latin Americanists in the social sciences and humanities. The host institution was the University of Pittsburgh. Specific topics included round table discussions on current research and teaching and on international and inter-American affairs.

Panelists examined such subjects as "Cuba in the 1970's: Evaluating the Institutionalization of the Revolution"; "The Urbanization Process in Latin America"; "Text, Context, and the Latin American Writer"; "Mexican Oil: Foreign and Domestic Policy and Politics"; "Peronism Revisited"; "Latin American Literature in Exile"; "Contemporary Argentine Women Writers"; "New Perspectives on Colonial Andean Society"; "Party System Evolution in Latin America"; "Carter Administration Policies Toward Latin America"; and "Latin American Periodicals." History, political science, international relations, literature, sociology, and economics were the disciplines most strongly represented. The close relationship between the writer of fiction, on the one hand, and society and politics, on the other, was emphasized in a number of panels. Approximately a dozen prominent Latin American writers and poets participated in the conference, many of whom are represented in the Library of Congress Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape.

Other topics of great interest to the scholars and panelists were the recent Latin America's Bishop's Conference in Puebla, Mexico, social action by Christian churches in Latin America, and human rights.

Viron P. Vaky, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, delivered the plenary session address entitled "U.S. Relations with Mexico."

In addition to representatives from the U.S. scholarly community, nearly 100 specialists from Latin America, Spain, Portugal, and western Europe were also present. One of the concrete products of the meeting was the founding of a Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies (MACLAS), which will bring together Latin Americanists from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and West Virginia.

[*William E. Carter, John R. Hébert,* and *Georgette M. Dorn*]

The final Regional Hearing of the **President's Commission on Foreign Languages and International Studies** was held at Tufts University on May 4. The commission is charged with recommending means for directing attention to the importance of foreign language and international studies and with determining what programs are appropriate and should be provided by the public and private sectors. Regional hearings such as this one provide a public forum for discussion and development of recommendations. The hearings are structured around a series of formal presentations, followed by panel discussions on various topics.

In addressing the hearing, James A. Perkins, chair of the commission, underscored that the commission will affect the future of area studies, foreign language instruction, exchange of faculty and students, and international and bilingual education at all levels. He emphasized that the importance of foreign languages and cultural studies must go beyond national security policies. Domestic and international interests are becoming more and more interrelated. Responding to an opening statement read from Representative Paul Tsongas on the need for a National Language Policy, Mr. Perkins commented that the only feasible way to implement such a policy within a Federal system of 50 states and a multitude of highly independent school boards is through education. This is already being accomplished in part. By its very existence and activity, the commission has already raised the level of public consciousness of the importance of foreign languages and international studies.

The first keynote speaker was John W. Porter, Michigan superintendent of public instruction. His goal was that every student in Michigan be enrolled in a basic education program emphasizing foreign language and area studies. He felt that a public or private school that does not provide an understanding of foreign languages and global education is deficient. The Michigan State Board of Education is in support of this idea. On May 1, they instructed Mr. Porter to formulate a proposal to include foreign language study among the necessary goals of the state's education program. (Mr. Porter's words were reminiscent of those of Wilson Riles, superintendent of public instruction in California, who said in the San Francisco hearing that foreign language training should be recognized as "a basic skill ranking in place with other basic skills.")

As a long range goal, Mr. Porter advocated the establishment of 10 university Global Education Centers, one in each Federal region for research and coordination of the efforts of the states. He also recommended that educational and cultural exchange programs should be expanded, concentrating on the education of primary and secondary teachers, but not to the detriment of college programs.

Joseph M. Cronin, Illinois superintendent of education, followed with several recommendations of his own, such as the sharing of teachers between foreign language and bilingual-bicultural programs. Mr. Cronin pointed out that Illinois has the largest number of bilingual-bicultural programs of any state in the United States. He then suggested that the sharing of teachers between small schools would provide an even wider choice of languages for the student.

Guy Rosmarin, consultant to the Massachusetts Foreign Business Council, spoke next. He recognized the importance of foreign language skills for U.S. corporations and argued that these skills should be required.

Following the plenary session, the participants assembled in six separate panels dealing with the following topics: facilitating international exchange of both teachers and students, foreign language training and certification, business and international trade, advanced training and research, international education in K through 12, and in college and for adults. The results of these panel discussions were presented at the end of the day and are being studied by members of the commission for possible inclusion in their final report. [*William E. Carter* and *Everette Larson*]

Correction: In the Appendix to the June 8 issue of the LC *Information Bulletin*, "Women's Program Statistical Update: 1978," there was an error in Chart II (p. 211). The grade gap for the Copyright Office figures should have read "1.29" not "0.29."

APPENDIX

THE AUDIENCE FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS
A Report on Two Talks and a Symposium
Library of Congress, March 12-13, 1979

by John Y. Cole
Executive Director
The Center for the Book

British author and critic Elaine Moss and Barbara Rollock, coordinator of children's services in the New York Public Library, addressed the topic "The Audience for Children's Books" on March 12 in a Library of Congress program in observance of UNESCO's International Year of the Child. The two talks and a symposium the next day were sponsored by the Library's Center for the Book and Children's Literature Center. The symposium, moderated by Robert Hale, associate executive director of the American Booksellers Association, included comments by Ann Durell, vice president and director, Children's Book Department, E. P. Dutton; Ethel L. Heins, editor, *The Horn Book Magazine;* and Cecily Truett, associate producer, "Studio See," South Carolina Educational Television.

THE TALKS BY ELAINE MOSS AND BARBARA ROLLOCK

Elaine Moss, for whom "knowing is always practical experience," shared her extensive experience of working in the "children's book sphere in Britain" with an appreciative audience. Several important British endeavors were described, including the radio program "Listen With Mother"; the Federation of Children's Book Groups and its "vitally important magazine" *Books for Your Children;* the School Bookshop Association and its journal, *School Bookshop News;* and the National Book League's Children's Books of the Year exhibition and catalog for which Mrs. Moss is responsible. Each of these efforts encourages "involvement and sharing the excitement of involvement" in children's books among children, parents, teachers, and librarians. Each tries to put good books in the hands of children. Each is also an attempt to break down the "artificial barriers which publishers, booksellers, and less aware teachers erect between books that look as though they are for the very young, and those that, as blurbs say, 'ought to be found on every ten-year-old's shelf.' "

In assessing the children's book world today, Elaine Moss gave her audience a vivid metaphor that soon elicited much discussion. In her opinion, a Sleeping Beauty—the rich children's literature that is the rightful heritage of every child—unfortunately now lies inside a thorny hedge of terminology developed by academic critics and other children's book specialists. To make matters even worse, well outside the hedge, "armed not with the gleaming sword of the handsome and determined Prince in the fairy tale but with heavy textbooks designed for college students or works of criticism for scholars, stand the bewildered teachers and parents, defeated before they begin." Mrs. Moss' description of the thorny hedge and her subsequent scolding of herself and other critics, reviewers and commentators ("Shame on Us! It is our sophistication that has cut us off from the very audience we need to reach: the audience in a working situation.") were referred to many times throughout the two-day program.

Barbara Rollock presented an overview of "those influences which either promote or mitigate against a meaningful interaction between the reader and his or her books" and explored the characteristics of both the adult and the children's audiences for children's books. In considering ways of motivating children to read, she emphasized the crucial importance of reading out loud to children—a point also discussed by Elaine Moss. Mrs. Rollock drew on her personal experience in discussing two other reasons why certain children develop into active readers: they see the adults around them reading and they grow up in homes where books form a natural part of the living environment.

Television was one of the important topics discussed by Mrs. Rollock, who noted that many preschoolers apparently spend as much as seven hours a day in front of a television set. Television has especially affected how much children read, and how much and what they read has of course affected their other skills and abilities. So far, she noted, "no one has proved that the reading audience has vanished, merely that its demands have changed and that television has been an important factor in effecting the

change." Her strong interest in the interrelationship between books and other media, especially television and radio, was summarized in a statement addressed to the audience: "The question is how to live compatibly with the fruits of the printing press and the ever burgeoning non-print technology, the way our children do. Need one exclude the other?"

SYMPOSIUM COMMENTS BY ANN DURELL, ETHEL L. HEINS, AND CECILY TRUETT

Ann Durell, taking the position that the audience for children's books is flourishing, cited personal examples of children she had seen reading under adverse circumstances on the New York City subway. She also cited book sales statistics and the popularity of authors like Judy Blume, "because her books are proof that children will read with passion and with interest." Furthermore, she cautioned symposium participants "not to be too grand about books" when considering the attitudes of children toward reading. Books are a convenient and relatively cheap form of communication that provide instantly retrievable information. Children know and appreciate this practical value of books: "books still work" as an essential medium of communication.

Addressing the thorn hedge around the Sleeping Beauty described by Elaine Moss, Ann Durell expressed her fear that the thorn hedge was "not composed just of critics, but of all adults who are keeping children from their kingdom. . . . I am an editor, and I can tell you that authors write for editors–and editors publish for librarians. And we all do it to make money."

Ethel L. Heins added another category of specialist to the thorn hedge formally separating the child from the book–the "educationalist" or teacher who is caught up in educational jargon. Articles like "An Analysis of the Syntactical Complexity of Newbery Medal Books," written by teachers and educators (and not necessarily by academic critics), are frequently found in educational journals. This tendency to pick books apart and dispense them "like pills for specific illnesses" ignores the joy of reading. It is especially sad to see it in so many teachers because the role of teachers and other adults in encouraging children to read–and especially in discussing their reading with them–is most important. Adult concern and commitment are the essential ingredients in bringing children together with good books.

Mrs. Heins expressed her frustration with the decline in public and school library service to children that has occurred in the wake of Proposition 13 and "the taxpayer's revolt," citing the deterioration in such services as another way we are "cutting off" the child from the book. She was particularly concerned about the possibility that even children might have to pay for their library services. Other topics addressed by Mrs. Heins included the importance of book fairs (using her own experience in Newton, Mass., as an illustration); the need to improve the distribution of good children's books, perhaps by using supermarkets as outlets; and, of course, the impact of television on children's reading.

It was interesting that the symposium participant most critical of television and its influence on children was Cecily Truett, who was asked to discuss children's books and reading from the perspective of a person deeply involved in television. She described many of the differences between watching television and reading and concluded that unfortunately "through many television programs we are teaching our children false values, unreal concepts of time, and a misrepresentation of the experience of life." Noting that it probably seemed incongruous for a television producer to talk about the "evils" of the medium, she emphasized the need to recognize and acknowledge the problems before we can move in a more positive direction. In this vein, she discussed three specific projects in which television has been used to promote reading and expand the audience for children's books. Each project demonstrated a different way that television can be used "as a most effective tool in teaching children to read."

"Cover to Cover" is a series of 32 quarter-hour television capsules that profile individual books, giving youngsters part of each story and then encouraging them to finish the book on their own. The speaker described how this project worked during an experiment at the Walter S. Boardman Elementary School in Oceanside, N.Y. The major difficulty in a project of this type is the need for equipment and some degree of technical knowledge. These problems are avoided in another type of project, those using television scripts in conjunction with commercial broadcasts. The best known script projects have been carried out by Michael McAndrew of Capital Cities Television Productions in Philadelphia, working in cooperation with CBS television.

Cecily Truett concluded her comments by describing and assessing her own "Studio See" project, which lasted for one year. "Studio See" was a documentary program that provided a profile of youngsters in the 12- to 16-year age group and was filmed on location in schools throughout the United States. The

youngsters described themselves and their interests in their own words. Reading lists and supplementary print materials concerning topics discussed on the program ("from snakes to rock climbing to scuba diving") were offered to interested schools in an attempt to encourage reading and the reading habit. The results of the experiment were interesting but mixed. For example, it did not stimulate the use of the school libraries in the way its sponsors hoped it would. Lessons were learned, however, and the potential for the complementary use of television and the printed word in a project such as this is enormous.

SYMPOSIUM DISCUSSION

Approximately 60 persons, including representatives of the Library of Congress Children's Literature Center and the Children's Literature Section in the Subject Cataloging Division, attended the March 13 symposium and participated in the discussion. Chairman Robert Hale called on Ann Durell, Ethel L. Heins, and Cecily Truett for their prepared comments and on Elaine Moss and Barbara Rollock for additional remarks before asking symposium participants for their questions and observations. The lively and wide-ranging discussion amplified topics already considered, posed questions for future debate, introduced new subjects, and provided participants with an opportunity to exchange ideas and information. The exchange of information about organizations with active children's book programs was particularly useful. The activities of the following groups were described in the course of the discussion: the American Reading Council, the School Bookshop Association (Great Britain), Reading is Fundamental, Inc., the National School Volunteer Program, the Children's Literature Center in the Library of Congress, and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

Other topics of discussion included adult use of television as a babysitter or "substitute parent"; the mistaken tendency of many adults to view childhood as a "monolithic entity"; terminology and definition problems such as "children's literature" versus "children's books" and the "library" versus "media center"; the artificiality of distinctions among the terms "children," "young adult," and "adult"; current trends in the publishing and marketing of children's books, especially the slow market for "backlist" books that have been out more than 18 months; the inaccessibility of good children's books in many parts of the country; the lack of adult knowledge (outside the book world) about what good children's books are available—and how to obtain them; ways of reducing many people's reluctance to go into bookstores; the display of children's books in bookstores; and how distribution techniques used for products such as underwear and stockings might be applied to the distribution of good children's books.

Also discussed were the influence of school curriculum and teacher training on the teaching of reading; the differences between teaching children to read and giving children a love of literature; the use of instructional, "how-to" books in teaching children to read; U.S. participation in UNESCO's International Year of the Child; picture books—"are they leading to reading or are they leading to television?"; prizes for children's books and whether they serve a useful function or simply encourage an elitist attitude among concerned adults (such as authors, librarians, publishers, and booksellers); the importance of academic and especially historical study of children's books; the role of textbooks in encouraging and discouraging the reading habit; lessons the United States might learn from other countries, especially the children's book movement in Great Britain; the editing and reviewing of children's books; the general neglect of children's poetry and verse; the virtues and vices of adolescent series such as the Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys books; and the tendency of parents to equate education with the word "book."

The discussion concluded with remarks by Virginia Haviland, chief, Children's Literature Center, and John Y. Cole, executive director, Center for the Book.

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